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TO USLO PEKING

3.3(b)(1) NSC

EO 12958

OCTOBER 15, 1973

TO: AMBASSADOR BRUCE as a would

I MET WITH HAN HSU SUNDAY EVENING TO INFORM THE CHINESE UN'A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS THAT IN LIGHT OF MASSIVE SOVIET AIRLIFT OF WAR MATERIALS TO SYRIA AND IRAG WE HERE STARTING U.S. AIRLIFT TO ISRAEL. CONSISTING PRIMARILY OF CONSUMABLES. I EMPHASIZED OUR DESIRE TO COUNTERACT SOVIET EFFORTS TO GAIN PREDOMINENT INFOURNCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND POINTED OUT THAT WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO BRING AN END TO THE FIGHTING IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT CONTRIBUTES TO A PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE ARFA. HAN RESPONDED BY REFERRING TO THE CHINESE POSITION ON THE MIDDLE EAST AS EXPRESSED IN SPEECHES BEFORE THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ALSO NOTED THAT CHOU EN-LAT HAD MET WITH ARAB AMBASSADORS AND SENT CABLES OF SUPPORT TO ASAC AND SADAT.

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WARM REGARDS.

\* 402K CHEEKA